

August 7, 1952

Dr. Joshua Lederberg
Department of Genetics
University of Wisconsin
Madison 6, Wisconsin

Dear Dr. Lederberg,

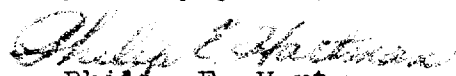
In your letter of August 1st you request further details concerning Weed's Cuprous-induced small colony variants and Dr. DeLamater's new techniques for the study of the nuclear cytology of bacteria. I am sorry that I cannot give you any more information in relation to the former matter; however, since the material has been presented at a seminar at one of the Eastern universities, I presume that Dr. Weed has at least a preliminary report on his studies written in such a manner that one could obtain a copy from him for private surveillance.

The same may be said for Dr. DeLamater's new techniques. He and Dr. Mudd are writing an article for INT.REV.CYTOLOGY in which the revised techniques are to be presented in rather thorough fashion. I am sure that he would be glad to send you a copy of the manuscript when the article is ready (probably in about 2-3 weeks). Whether the article will cover the microscopic equipment or not, I am not sure; if that phase is not in the above-mentioned article, he would be quite glad to describe for you that phase of his program.

It seems to me, however, that the best approach to the resolution of the nuclear events associated with genetic phenomena in K12 would be a joint approach between two groups, each a master at his own phase of biology. This is made feasible by DeLamater's technique in which permanent mounts can be made at one place and examined and photographed months later at another laboratory. I think that Dr. DeLamater would be very much interested in a joint program but that he is at present holding back since he feels that it would be too presumptuous a program to suggest on his part. As a student of Dr. Mudd's, both on the outside of the situation and just a bit on the inside, too, I feel that perhaps I could at least mention my thoughts on the matter in the hope that it will be taken more as a sincere suggestion from a "disinterested" party.

I am sorry that I cannot give you direct information on the matters under discussion; since I am not involved in those researches it would be safer for you to communicate with the persons involved in a direct fashion.

Very truly yours,


Philip E. Hartman